

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A mobile terminal, comprising:
a control unit;
a display unit;
an upper housing including a through cutting in an edge portion;

a lower housing; ~~and~~

a 2-axis hinge unit coupling the housings for folding and swinging movement of the upper housing relative to the lower housing about intersecting axes, one of which is arranged in the lower housing and the other of which is arranged in the upper housing, ~~the intersecting axes is formed in a column; and~~

a position detection means for detecting relative positions between the upper housing and the lower housing,

wherein a top face of the one of the axes is exposed outside the terminal for viewing due to arranging the one of the axes in the through cutting of the upper housing in all positions of the upper housing, and an information input device is mounted in the top face of one of the axes, ~~the through cutting is formed to a sector, the upper housing closely swings around a circumference of the column axis; and~~

~~wherein~~ the information input device is a pointing device,

upon the position detection means detecting the housings being overlaid with the display unit facing outside, the control unit assigns a predetermined function to the information input device and the control unit enables an inputting operation of the information input device.

2-4. (canceled)

5. (previously presented) The terminal according to claim 1, wherein the control unit assigns another operating function to the pointing device.

6. (previously presented) The terminal according to claim 1, wherein the information input device further comprises a terminal operating function.

7. (original) The terminal according to claim 6, wherein the terminal operating function is performed by a press.

8. (original) The terminal according to claim 1, wherein the information input device is a fingerprint sensor.

9. (original) The terminal according to claim 8, wherein the control unit can operate the terminal when the fingerprint sensor detects a predetermined input.

10. (canceled)

11. (original) The terminal according to claim 10, wherein the control unit controls the terminal based on an output of the position detection means.

12. (original) The terminal according to claim 11, wherein the control unit controls an operation of the information input device.

13. (original) The terminal according to claim 10, wherein the position detection means comprise a magnet and a magnetic sensor.

14. (original) The terminal according to claim 13, wherein the magnet and the magnetic sensor are arranged in separate housings.

15. (original) The terminal according to claim 13, wherein the magnetic sensor is a Hall element.

16. (original) The terminal according to claim 10, wherein the position detection means detect a turning direction of the housings.

17. (original) The terminal according to claim 16, wherein the control unit controls the display unit based on the turning direction of the housings.

18. (original) The terminal according to claim 2, wherein the control unit detects an operation of a predetermined operation key to control an operation of the information input device.

19. (original) The terminal according to claim 18, wherein the control unit controls an operation of the information input device while a predetermined operation key is operated.

20. (original) The terminal according to claim 1, comprising a lock unit for locking said 2-axis hinge unit.

21. (original) The terminal according to claim 20, wherein the lock unit is controlled by an input from the information input device.

22. (original) The terminal according to claim 21, wherein the information input device is a personal authentication sensor; and

the lock unit is released when the sensor detects a predetermined input.

23. (original) The terminal according to claim 22, wherein the personal authentication sensor is a fingerprint sensor.

24. (original) The terminal according to claim 1, wherein the terminal is a mobile telephone.

25. (previously presented) The mobile terminal of claim 1, wherein the two axes of the 2-axis hinge unit are a folding axis and a horizontal rotation axis, and the one of the axes is the horizontal rotation axis.

26-36. (cancelled)

37. (currently amended) A mobile terminal, comprising:
a control unit;
a display unit;
an upper housing including a through cutting in an edge portion;

a lower housing; and

a 2-axis hinge unit coupling the housings and having an open and close rotation axis and a horizontal rotation axis which is in the through cutting of the upper housing in all positions of the upper housing, ~~the through cutting is formed to a sector, the upper housing closely swings around a circumference of a column axis; and~~

an information input device being mounted in a top face of the horizontal rotation axis; and

a position detection means for detecting relative positions between the upper housing and the lower housing,

wherein, upon the position detection means detecting the housings being overlaid with the display unit facing outside, the control unit assigns a predetermined function to the information input device and the control unit enables an inputting operation of the information input device.

38. (previously presented) The mobile terminal according to claim 37, wherein a lower portion of the horizontal rotation axis is in the lower housing and an upper portion is in the through cutting of the upper housing.

39. (currently amended) A mobile terminal, comprising:
a display;
a controller;

a lower housing;

an upper housing, a through cutting in an edge portion;

a pointing device; and

a 2-axis hinge unit coupling the lower and the upper housing allowing faces of the upper housing and lower housing to open and close against each other and to have the upper housing and lower housing rotate relative to each other around an axis created by the pointing device in the 2-axis hinge unit, the pointing device exposed to an operator in any position of the upper housing and lower housing relative to each other, ~~the through cutting is formed to a sector, the upper housing closely swings around a circumference of a column axis; and~~

a position detection means for detecting relative positions between the upper housing and the lower housing,

wherein, upon the position detection means detecting the housings being overlaid with the display unit facing outside, the control unit assigns a predetermined function to the information input device and the control unit enables an inputting operation of the information input device.